11.

THE *Proteſtant Chevalier*

A

Papiſt in Maſquerade:

OR, AN

ANTIDOTE

Againſt the

Pretender.

In a Dialogue between two Friends, a *Citizen* and a *Country-man.*

LONDON:
Printed for *E. Smith* in *Cornhill*; and Sold by the Bookſellers of *London* and *Weſtminſter*.
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Country-man.

WELL met, Friend; pray, what News from *London*?

Citizen.

Trade goes on heavily; and the People ſeem afraid that if the Queen ſhould Die, (I pray God long preſerve her) that the *Pretender* will come here, and be our King.

Country-man.

In the Name of Wonder, what

ſhould bring ſuch Things into their Heads: Do they aſſign any Reaſons for what they ſay?

Citizen.

Yes, they do ſeveral; but the Chief (as well as I can remember) are theſe; *He will be Aſſiſted by Two Powerful Princes, the Kings of* France *and* Spain; *by the* Non-jurors *and* Papiſts *at Home, who are not ſo inconſiderable as ſome would fain have us believe them to be.* And they ſay further, *That it is much ſuſpected that there is a greater Number of People, who, tho' they have taken the Oaths, wait only for a favourable Opportunity to Unmask, and to Declare themſelves for the* Pretender.

Country-man.

How can the King of *France* aſſiſt him, when, by the *Articles of Peace* lately concluded between Us,

Us, he is, in expreſs Terms, bound up to the contrary?

Citizen.

If I ſhew you that he is more ſolemnly Engag'd to the *Pretender*, and that this Engagement is ſeconded by his Intereſt, and, laſtly, that in all Likelihood he will have Power ſufficient to compaſs his Deſign, I hope then you will allow they are not without Reaſon that fear his Coming.

Country-man.

Come, prove what you ſay, and I will freely come into your Sentiments.

Citizen.

I am glad I have ſo fair a Proſpect to gain you over to my Side: I ſuppoſe you will grant that Promiſes made to a Dying Friend, are held Sacred in all Places; be pleas'd then to obſerve,

ſerve, That when King *James* was on his Death-Bed, the *French* King came to pay him a Viſit, and to take his laſt Leave of him, and at Parting, he ſolemnly promis'd him, before all the Company then preſent, *That as ſoon as God ſhould call for his Majeſty, he would cauſe the Prince, his Son, to be Proclaim'd King, and would endeavour to ſee him own'd as ſuch by all* Europe. And to the *Pretender* he ſaid, *You are going to loſe the King, your Father, but you ſhall always find One in me, and I will conſider you as my own Child.* To which the other anſwer'd, *I will always have for your Majeſty the ſame Reſpect as for the King, my Father, and I will never forget what I owe you.* The Event proves how ſincere the *French* King was in the Matter, for, as ſoon as King

James

James Dy'd, he caus'd the *Pretender* to be Proclaim'd King of *Great Britain*, tho' King *William* had made *Peace* with him but a little before, and we had at that Time an Ambaſſador in *France*. I come in the ſecond Place to ſhew, That it is his Intereſt to endeavour the Reſtoration of the *Pretender*.

Whoever looks back upon the Tranſactions of *Europe*, for above Forty Years paſt, if they judge impartially, they muſt acknowledge that *England* has ſeveral Times ſtood in the Gap againſt the Power of *France*, ſtop'd the Progreſs of his Arms, check'd his Victories, and deſtroy'd his Ambitious, tho' well Concerted Schemes for Univerſal Monarchy. If then he can make *England* his Friend, the reſt of *Europe* muſt pay Homage

mage to his Power, and the beſt Way to ſecure this, is to make the *Pretender* our King, on whoſe Friendſhip he may ſafely rely; for beſides the Debt of Gratitude for his Education and Maintenance, his Dying Father twice exhorted him to be always True to the Intereſt of the King of *France*.

From what I have offer'd, I hope I have convinc'd you, that by the united Engagements of Promiſe, and Intereſt, the *French* King is bound to aſſiſt the *Pretender*. I proceed to ſhew how likely it is that he will have Power ſufficient to effect it: By a moderate Computation, it is judg'd that the *French* King has 300000 Men in Arms: He is, at preſent, Victorious in *Germany*, and it is very probable that he will force the Empire to a Peace this Winter

ter upon his own Terms, and thereby free himſelf from the Remains of that Grand Alliance which held him for ſo many Years by the Beard; which done, his Hands are at Liberty to ſerve his Friend: If he Attacks us, pray what Force have we to Oppoſe him? Have we not disbanded our Troops? Do thoſe that are kept in Pay in *Great Britain* and *Ireland* exceed 20000? Are theſe ſufficient to make Head againſt ſuch a numerous Army of *Veterans?* What ſhall we do? Shall we look for Foreign Aſſiſtance? I am afraid they have been ſo much diſguſted of late, that they will not be very forward to engage in our Quarrel: To ſum up all, in a Word, I cannot ſee but we have juſt Reaſon to fear a *Pretender.*

Country-man.

Well, Granting the *Pretender* ſhould come, if it be true what they write from *Paris*, in the *Amſterdam Courant*, (of the 7th of *Octob.* 1713) That he has publickly profeſs'd himſelf a *Proteſtant* according to the *Church of England*: What Inconvenience will that be to us?

Citizen.

How can I think that a Prince train'd up from a Child, with great Care, in the Principles of *Popery*, Converſing conſtantly among *Papiſts*, Enjoyn'd by a Dying Father to be always a good *Catholick*, Sollicited by a Zealous Mother to be ſtedfaſt in his Religion, ſhould, all of a ſudden, conquer theſe Difficulties, and lay aſide all the Prejudices of his Education, and in a *Popiſh Country* profeſs himſelf openly a *Proteſtant* of the

the *Church of England?* It may be real, but I have no Faith in ſuch Converſions; and my Miſtruſt increaſes, when I conſider that he hopes to be rewarded with a Crown, and that it is no uncommon Thing amongſt the *Papiſts* to diſſemble their Religion, when they can do any Service to Mother-Church thereby.

Country-man.

I know you have an honeſt Zeal for your Religion, and therefore it is poſſible you may be miſtaken in what you ſay: Can you cite me any Examples to prove it?

Citizen.

Yes: I can ſhew you a great many Examples in all Countries where that Religion is not Eſtabliſh'd by Law, but I will confine my ſelf, at preſent, to ſome eminent Inſtances in our own.

Did not King *Charles* the Second, all his Life-Time, pretend to be a *Proteſtant*? He came frequently to the Church, and at the great Feſtivals to the Communion, and yet, when he came to Die, he declar'd himſelf a *Papiſt*, for which we have the Royal Word of his Brother, and the Teſtimony of two Papers written by his own Hand, and left behind him in the *Strong-Box*, and, ſince his Death, Publiſh'd by Authority.

Did not King *James*, whilſt Duke of *York*, pretend to be a *Proteſtant*, nay, proſecuted ſeveral, in an Action of *Scandal*, for ſaying he was a *Papiſt*? *John Dutton Colt*, Eſq; fell under this Proſecution, and had Judgment given againſt him for 100000 *l.* and lay in Priſon for the ſame till he was delivered, together with our Liberties,

berties, by the late King *William*, of Glorious Memory. There have been ſeveral Inſtances alſo amongſt the Nobility and Gentry of this Kingdom that have turn'd *Proteſtants*, and having taken the Oaths neceſſary to qualify themſelves, have acted in the Adminiſtration of the Government all their Lives, yet they bred up their Children *Papiſts*, and declar'd themſelves of that Religion upon their Death-Beds; From hence it evidently appears, that it is very dangerous to truſt to the pretended Converſion of a *Papiſt*, eſpecially if there be any great Advantage that will accrue to him thereby.

Country-man.

Well, to admit the worſt of the Caſe: Suppoſe the *Pretender*, after his Acceſſion to the Throne of *Great Britain*, ſhould declare himſelf

himſelf a *Papiſt*, if he maintains to us the quiet Exerciſe of our Religion, and the free Poſſeſſion of our Liberties and Properties, what Harm can it produce ?

Citizen.

Our Experience from Facts, both at Home and Abroad, confirm to us, that ſuch Hopes were vain. In the Civil-Wars of *France*, the King now Reigning was powerfully aſſiſted by his Proteſtant Subjects, and his Crown preſerv'd on his Head by their Efforts, yet the Principles of his Religion induc'd him to forget all this, and to deprive his Loyal Subjects of the Priviledges which they enjoy'd by the Law of the Land, and then to force them, by cruel Perſecution, either to turn Papiſts, or to Fly : Above 500000 People which are diſpers'd in the ſeveral Countries

of

of *Europe* are undeniable Witneſſes of this Barbarity; and if we can believe what theſe poor Refugees ſay, There are ſtill in *France* above four Times the Number that groan under the Burden of a forc'd Compliance with the Idolatrous Practices of the Church of *Rome*, to the great Hazard of their Salvation. If we look into the Hiſtory of our own Country, the *Popiſh* Queen *Mary* will ſupply us with a famous Inſtance. King *Edward* the Sixth, a Prince zealous for Promoting the *Reformation*, being afraid that his Siſter *Mary* would reſtore *Popery*, by his Will he ſet her aſide, and appointed his Couſin, the Lady *Jane Gray*, to ſucceed him, but the *Suffolk* and *Norfolk* Men having been aſſur'd by the Lady *Mary*, that ſhe would maintain them in their Religion, and

their

their Laws, they unanimouſly roſe in her Favour, and having diſpirited the Oppoſite Party, ſoon put her in Poſſeſſion of the Crown, in which ſhe was hardly warm, but ſhe forgot her Friends, and all her Promiſes, and, in a ſhort Reign of Five Years, made a very Bloody and great Slaughter of her *Proteſtant* Subjects by Fire and Faggot; and, as a noted Author has lately obſerv'd, nothing but Death hinder'd her from Deſtroying every *Proteſtant* in her Dominions: And it is very remarkable, That thoſe very Men who appear'd moſt forward and active in bringing her to the Crown, were the firſt that felt the Edge of her Fury.

In the Reign of King *James* the Second, Things were Poſting to the ſame Iſſue, and, had not God

God rais'd for us a glorious Deliverer, the late King *William*, of ever bleſſed Memory, we had certainly, at this Time, been in as miſerable a Condition as any of our perſecuted Brethren in *Europe*.

Country-man.

It is very ſtrange that Chriſtianity, which was deſign'd to promote Love and good Nature amongſt Mankind, ſhould be ſo corrupted among any Society, that Diveſting them of all Humanity, it ſhould teach Men to be barbarous and cruel towards their Neighbours.

Citizen.

If you look into their Principles, it cannot be otherwiſe, for the Spirit of Perſecution is ſo blended with their Religion, that whoever imbibes the one, generally ſucks in the other; this is confirmed to us

by the almoſt conſtant Practice of of ſeveral Hundred Years; I may ſay conſtant, except when apparently it could not be done without great Inconveniencies another Way: So that what by Cruſadoes, by Maſſacres, by Inquiſitions, and other Methods of that Kind, more Chriſtian Blood has been ſhed by the *Papiſts* in this Part of *Europe* only, than was by the Heathen all the World over in all the Ten Perſecutions, as far as we can judge by the remaining Accounts we have of that Matter. I will juſt touch upon their Principles, that you may the better judge how ſafe we ſhall be in their Hands: They believe none can be ſav'd out of the Church of *Rome*; and that by Converting a *Heretick* they ſhall cover a Multitude of Sins, and therefore out of Tenderneſs and

Compaſſion

Compaſſion (as they pretend) to their erring Brethren, who are in a damnable State, they uſe all manner of Cruelties to bring them into the Boſom of the Church, as Priſons, Galleys, nay, Death it ſelf has been the Fate of infinite Numbers, the better to frighten others to comply.

In 1641, the *Iriſh Papiſts* univerſally Rebell'd, without the leaſt Colour of Provocation, and in a moſt Cruel and Barbarous Manner murder'd 300000 Proteſtants, of which a great Number had yielded upon Terms, and had their Paſſports and Safeguards in their Hands, as it is Recorded at large by Sir *John Temple*.

In the *Low Countries*, a Place of leſs Extent than *England*, in the Compaſs of a very few Years, a little before their Civil Wars

broke out, what by Hanging, Beheading, Drowning, Burning, and Burying alive, no leſs than 50000 loſt their Lives for Religion, as we are inform'd by Father *Paule*, an Hiſtorian that Liv'd and Dy'd in their Communion. And, in a ſhort Time after this, the Duke *De Alva*, who Govern'd theſe Provinces for the King of *Spain*, glory'd publickly, That in Six Years he had put to Death 18000 *Proteſtants*, beſides what he had ſlain by the Sword in the Field; Actions ſo full of Horror and Villany, that no Man Living, but a *Papiſt*, would have thought it any Honour to own.

In *France*, in the Year 1572, *Charles* the Ninth pretended a mighty Friendſhip for his Proteſtant Subjects, and did often puniſh, with great Severity, thoſe who

who did disturb them in their Worship, and that he might get the most considerable of them together, he invited them to *Paris*, to be present at the Wedding of his Sister with the King of *Navar*, then a *Protestant*, and, contrary to all the Laws of Honour and Hospitality, he gave private Orders to Massacre them, which was accordingly executed on St. *Bartholomew*'s Day, when, and soon after, in all *France* there were about 100000 *Protestants* murther'd, in Cold Blood, for Religion only; and the King of *Navar* himself (tho' the First Prince of the Blood) narrowly escap'd the same Fate thro' the Favour of his new Bride, who conceal'd him under her Petticoat, which, according to the Fashion then in use, was very large, and perhaps not much unlike our Hoop-

Hoop-Petticoats. Theſe few Examples, from among many which could be produc'd, I hope are ſufficient to convince any reaſonable Man, That if *Papiſts* are juſt to their Principles, they cannot ſuffer any of a different Perſwaſion to Live amongſt them.

Country-man.

I pray God deliver me from the Profeſſion of a Religion propagated by Blood, and from Falling under the Power of thoſe that are of that Religion.

Citizen.

I hope then you will be by Inclination, as well as by Duty, for the Succeſſion in the Illuſtrious Houſe of *Hanover*, and Keeping out the *Pretender*.

Country-man.

Yes: With Heart and Hand I will Aſſert and Stand by that Intereſt,

tereſt; and I do not queſtion, notwithſtanding all that has been ſaid to the contrary, but when it comes to be put to the Tryal, the Buſk of the whole Nation will range themſelves on that Side, and I pray God bleſs them with Succeſs, that we may enjoy our Religion and Liberties, which we have laid out, for Twenty Five Years paſt, ſuch a vaſt Treaſure of Blood and Money to Secure.

FINIS.

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